

# REPORT

## ON

# NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 23rd January 1892.

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## URIYA PAPERS.

Nil.

## ASSAM PAPERS.

Nil.

## LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No.          | Names of newspapers.                 | Place of publication.  | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| BENGALI.     |                                      |                        |                                 |   |
| Fortnightly. |                                      |                        |                                 |   |
| 1            | "Ahmadí" ... ..                      | Tangail, Mymensingh    | 600                             | 14th January 1892.                                  |
| 2            | "Kaliyuga" ... ..                    | Calcutta               | ...                             |   |
| 3            | "Kasipore Nivási" ... ..             | Kasipore, Burrisal     | 280                             |   |
| 4            | "Navamihir" ... ..                   | Ghatail, Mymensingh    | 500                             |   |
| 5            | "Uluberia Darpan" ... ..             | Uluberia               | 700                             |   |
| Tri-monthly. |                                      |                        |                                 |   |
| 6            | "Hitakari" ... ..                    | Kushtea                | 800                             | 13th ditto.   |
| Weekly.      |                                      |                        |                                 |   |
| 7            | "Bangavási" ... ..                   | Calcutta               | 20,000                          | 16th ditto.   |
| 8            | "Banganivási" ... ..                 | Ditto                  | 8,000                           | 15th ditto.   |
| 9            | "Burdwán Sanjivani" ... ..           | Burdwan                | 335                             | 12th ditto.   |
| 10           | "Cháruvartá" ... ..                  | Sherepore, Mymensingh  | 400                             | 11th ditto.   |
| 11           | "Dacca Prakásh" ... ..               | Dacca                  | 2,200                           | 17th ditto.   |
| 12           | "Education Gazette" ... ..           | Hooghly                | 825                             | 15th ditto.   |
| 13           | "Grámvási" ... ..                    | Ramkristopore, Howrah  | 1,000                           | 18th ditto.   |
| 14           | "Hindu Ranjiká" ... ..               | Beauleah, Rajshahye... | 212                             | 13th ditto.   |
| 15           | "Hitavádí" ... ..                    | Calcutta               | .....                           | 16th ditto.   |
| 16           | "Murshidábád Pratinidhi" ... ..      | Berhampore             | .....                           | 8th ditto.  |
| 17           | "Navayuga" ... ..                    | Calcutta               | 500                             | 14th ditto.   |
| 18           | "Prakriti" ... ..                    | Ditto                  | .....                           | 16th ditto.   |
| 19           | "Pratikár" ... ..                    | Berhampore             | 609                             | 15th ditto.   |
| 20           | "Prithivi" ... ..                    | Calcutta               | .....                           |   |
| 21           | "Rungpur Dikprakásh" ... ..          | Kakinia, Rungpur       | .....                           |   |
| 22           | "Sahachar" ... ..                    | Calcutta               | 800-1,000                       | 13th ditto.   |
| 23           | "Sahayogi" ... ..                    | Burrisal               | 342                             | 9th ditto.  |
| 24           | "Sakti" ... ..                       | Dacca                  | .....                           |   |
| 25           | "Samáj-o-Sáhitya" ... ..             | Garibpore, Nuddea      | 1,000                           |   |
| 26           | "Samaya" ... ..                      | Calcutta               | 3,000                           | 15th ditto.   |
| 27           | "Sanjivani" ... ..                   | Ditto                  | 4,000                           | 16th ditto.   |
| 28           | "Sansodhini" ... ..                  | Chittagong             | .....                           |   |
| 29           | "Sáraswat Patra" ... ..              | Dacca                  | 300                             | 16th ditto.   |
| 30           | "Som Prakásh" ... ..                 | Calcutta               | 600                             | 18th ditto.   |
| 31           | "Srimanta Sadagar" ... ..            | Ditto                  | .....                           |   |
| 32           | "Sudhákar" ... ..                    | Ditto                  | 3,100                           | 15th ditto.   |
| 33           | "Sulabh Samáchar" ... ..             | Ditto                  | .....                           |   |
| Daily.       |                                      |                        |                                 |   |
| 34           | "Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká" ... ..      | Calcutta               | 500                             |   |
| 35           | "Bengal Exchange Gazette" ... ..     | Ditto                  | .....                           |   |
| 36           | "Dainik-o-Samáchar Chandriká" ... .. | Ditto                  | 1,000                           | 17th and 19th to 21st January 1892.                 |
| 37           | "Samvád Prabhákar" ... ..            | Ditto                  | 1,500                           | 15th, 16th, 18th, 19th and 21st January 1892.       |
| 38           | "Samvád Purnachandrodaya" ... ..     | Ditto                  | 300                             |   |
| 39           | "Sulabh Dainik" ... ..               | Ditto                  | .....                           |   |

| No.                        | Names of newspapers.                            | Place of publication. | Reported number of subscribers. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| ENGLISH AND BENGALI.       |   |                       |                                 |   |
| Weekly.                    |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 40                         | "Dacca Gazette" ... ..                          | Dacca ... ..          | .....                           | 18th January 1892.                                  |
| HINDI.                     |   |                       |                                 |   |
| Monthly.                   |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 41                         | "Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrika." | Darjeeling ...        | 50                              | 14th ditto.   |
| 42                         | "Kshatriya Patrikā" ... ..                      | Patna ...             | 250                             |   |
| Weekly.                    |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 43                         | "Aryāvarta" ... ..                              | Calcutta ...          | 750                             | 14th ditto.   |
| 44                         | "Behar Bandhu" ... ..                           | Bankipore ...         | 500                             |   |
| 45                         | "Bhārat Mitra" ... ..                           | Calcutta ...          | 1,200                           |   |
| 46                         | "Champarun Chandrika" ... ..                    | Bettiah ...           | 350                             |   |
| 47                         | "Desī Vyāpārī" ... ..                           | Calcutta ...          | .....                           | 11th ditto.   |
| 48                         | "Hindi Bangavāsī" ... ..                        | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 49                         | "Sār Sudhānidhi" ... ..                         | Ditto ...             | 500                             |   |
| 50                         | "Uchit Baktā" ... ..                            | Ditto ...             | 4,500                           |   |
| URDU.                      |   |                       |                                 |   |
| Weekly.                    |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 51                         | "Al Punch" ... ..                               | Bankipore ...         | .....                           | 28th December and 4th Jan. 1892.                    |
| 52                         | "Anis" ... ..                                   | Patna ...             | .....                           |   |
| 53                         | "Calcutta Punch" ... ..                         | Calcutta ...          | .....                           | 11th January 1892.                                  |
| 54                         | "General and Gauhariasfi" ... ..                | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 55                         | "Mehre Monawar" ... ..                          | Mozufferpore ...      | .....                           |   |
| 56                         | "Raisul-Akhbari-Moorshidabad" ... ..            | Murshidabad ...       | 150                             |   |
| 57                         | "Setare Hind" ... ..                            | Arrah ...             | .....                           | 8th ditto.  |
| 58                         | "Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ... ..           | Calcutta ...          | 340                             |   |
| URIYA.                     |   |                       |                                 |   |
| Monthly.                   |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 59                         | "Asha" ... ..                                   | Cuttack ...           | 165                             |   |
| 60                         | "Echo" ... ..                                   | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 61                         | "Pradīp" ... ..                                 | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 62                         | "Samyabadi" ... ..                              | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 63                         | "Taraka and Subhavārtā" ... ..                  | Ditto ...             | .....                           |   |
| 64                         | "Utkalprāna" ... ..                             | Mayurbhunj ...        | .....                           |   |
| Weekly.                    |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 65                         | "Dipaka" ... ..                                 | Cuttack ...           | .....                           |   |
| 66                         | "Samvad Vāhika" ... ..                          | Balasore ...          | 200                             |   |
| 67                         | "Uriya and Navasamvād" ... ..                   | Ditto ...             | 420                             |   |
| 68                         | "Utkal Dīpikā" ... ..                           | Cuttack ...           | 420                             |   |
| PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM. |   |                       |                                 |   |
| BENGALI.                   |   |                       |                                 |   |
| Fortnightly.               |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 69                         | "Paridarshak" ... ..                            | Sylhet ...            | 480                             |   |
| 70                         | "Silchar" ... ..                                | Silchar ...           | 500                             |   |
| Weekly.                    |   |                       |                                 |   |
| 71                         | "Srihatta Mihir" ... ..                         | Sylhet ...            | 332                             |   |







## II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

## (a)—Police.

A correspondent of the *Sudhakar*, of the 15th January, says that hardly a night passes without three or four cases of theft occurring in the villages within the jurisdiction of the Parasuram outpost in the Fenny sub-division of the Noakhally district. This has greatly alarmed the villagers. The daroga of the outpost is, however, quite indifferent in the matter. It is hoped Babu Nabin Chandra Sen, Sub-divisional Officer of Fenny, will see that the people within his jurisdiction can live in safety with their property.

SUDHAKAR,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

## (b)—Working of the Courts.

2. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th January, has the following:—

The native members of the Subordinate Judicial Service have been for a long time condemned to the penalty of hard work. These officers working from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. every day find it difficult to clear their files or to dispose of cases without two or more postponements.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Jan 12th, 1892.

Their official superiors—the District Judges or Magistrates—frequently take them to task for delay in disposing of cases, forgetting that their subordinates are overworked and are compelled to postpone cases for sheer want of time. Thus the subordinate native judiciary instead of being rewarded, are merely rebuked for their pains.

The writer, therefore, has learnt with regret that Sir Charles Elliott has, during his recent tour in Bengal, expressed himself dissatisfied with the work of several native judicial officers for not having disposed of cases quickly, and has issued a circular ordering native judicial officers to do extra work. The writer says that it was not unusual for many judicial officers to work from 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. every day even before the order of the Lieutenant-Governor. But although in this way the quantity of work done may be increased and the inconvenience to parties diminished, yet there are disadvantages of a very serious nature which will more than counterbalance the apparent advantages likely to result from the change—

*First.*—The quantity of work can be increased, but only at the expense of the quality, if the number of officers remain as before. The practice of compelling judicial officers to work harder will result in work of an inferior quality, especially as the work is one which requires severe mental application.

*Secondly.*—The health of the officers concerned will inevitably break down under the heavy pressure of work sought to be put on them. The health of judicial officers generally is far from satisfactory. A good deal of sickness in the service, and the premature deaths which have of late occurred among the members of the service, are traceable to excessive intellectual labour.

*Thirdly.*—Although the inconvenience to parties will, in some respects, be diminished, yet the parties and their witnesses will be obliged to wait until a late hour of night under a tree or in the open verandah of the court premises even in cold-weather.

3. The *Hindu Ranjika*, of the 13th January, says that, on the abolition of the Rajshahye Small Cause Court, the District Judge has ordered that all Small Cause Court suits of the value of Rs. 50 and upwards should be tried, in future, by the Subordinate Judge. But no provision has been made for the disposal of Small Cause Court suits below that value coming from the Sudder thana and the Puthia and Godabari thanas, which, before the abolition of the Small Cause Court, used to be tried by the Subordinate Judge. Under the new arrangement, all Small Cause Court suits below the value of Rs. 50 should be made triable by the Munsif, who used formerly to dispose of such suits only from the thanas Bagmara, Cherghat and Tanore.

HINDU RANJIKA,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

In this connection, the writer would draw attention to the order issued by Mr. Handley, Judge of Krishnagar, and since confirmed by the High Court, namely, that no second class pleaders should be allowed to plead before the Subordinate Judge in Small Cause Court suits. This order of Mr. Handley's has caused great anxiety to the second class pleaders, not only of Krishnagar,



but also of the adjacent districts, who have submitted a petition to the Bengal Government protesting against the order.

PRAKRITI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

4. The *Prakriti*, of the 16th January, says that the name of Mr. Sharp, of the Bogra *Sankirtan* fame, is well known to the people of Bengal. After the Sankirtan scandal, Mr. Sharp

Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra. took a long furlough, from which he lately returned, and has now been posted to the Sudder station of Bogra.

The writer has received many complaints against him, and has heard that he has again begun to act in a very highhanded manner. He asks His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor to transfer Mr. Sharp and thereby earn the gratitude of the people of Bogra.

SANJIVANI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra.

5. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th January, has the following on Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra:—

Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra, made himself notorious a few years ago by his oppression of the Brahmos of the place. He was after that transferred to Furreedpore, where also he gave proofs of his whimsical disposition. He was again transferred to Bogra, and this time his oppression rose to its climax. He did what he pleased without caring for the convenience or good of the people entrusted to his charge, and was bent on revenging himself upon those of his clerks and amla who had tried to mitigate his oppression of the Brahmos during his last incumbency at Bogra. This was very serious conduct, indeed, possible only under the Mussulman Nawabs. Mr. Sharp has obtained leave for three months, but he has not yet left the station, and is busy making up his arrears of business. The charge of the district has been made over to the officer appointed in his place, who is doing his work during regular office hours; and Mr. Sharp comes to office at 5 P.M. and goes on working till 8 P.M. It is strange indeed that there should be, at one and the same time, two Magistrate-Collectors in Bogra. A double rule has thus commenced in that district. An extraordinary sight to see under British rule! This double rule has become a source of great inconvenience to parties to suits, to pleaders, mukhtars, and the amla of the Court. The example of Mr. Sharp is being imitated by the Deputy Magistrates, who, in their anxiety to please their masters, are sometimes holding their Courts till midnight, thus causing great hardship to all.

Though Mr. Sharp is now on leave, he has not ceased communicating with the amla. He frequently sends for them and thus causes them great inconvenience. He has compelled them to show him the Commissioner's remarks on his administration. Considering his vindictive disposition, and that there is every probability of his coming back to the station after his return from leave, the amla could hardly have the courage to refuse him. Such *jubberdust* on the part of a Magistrate is almost incredible. But the above allegations cannot be disbelieved, as they have been made by a correspondent of an important paper like the *Indian Mirror*.

It is a great fault of Mr. Sharp's that he never does anything in time. Be it a report called for by the Government or by the Commissioner or by the Board of Revenue, Mr. Sharp will not send it up until repeated takeeds have been made. A paper was sent from the office of the Inspector-General of Registration in April of last year, but it was made over to the Sub-Registrar only on the 4th January last. Through his dilatory habits he often postpones writing his letters till the post has left, and then he makes his chaprassis go on foot all the twenty-six miles to Sultanpore to post his letters. Papers received from Government are locked up in his box for a long time before being made over to the amla.

Mr. Sharp's ways do not seem to indicate that he has a superior officer above him, or that there is any ruler over the people of Bogra except himself. It is not known whether Mr. Sharp's doings have come to the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor. But when they have gone to such lengths as to be discussed in the public papers, it is hoped His Honour will enquire into the matter and ascertain the truth of the allegations made above.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA  
Jan. 17th, 1892.

6. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 17th January, says that it

Mr. Sharp, Magistrate of Bogra. was sorry to hear that Mr. Sharp, of the Brahmo notoriety in Bogra, had been again posted to that station, and was conducting himself as before; but it is a pleasure to hear that the new report regarding Mr. Sharp is false, and that Mr. Sharp has this time made himself popular with the Bogra public by his gentle behaviour.



## (c)—Jails.

7. The *Navayuga*, of the 14th January, says that it is true that the female convicts at Port Blair, who saved certain persons from drowning, did the kind and brave act at the instance of Gafuran, but when they risked their lives equally with her, they too ought to have been released like her.

NAVAYUGA,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

8. Referring to a communication received from the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal, the *Bangavasi*, of the 16th January, writes

BANGAVASI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

as follows:—

During his late visit to Durbhunga, Sir Charles Elliott was greatly touched at the sight of an old man in the Durbhunga Jail, who was imprisoned under a Civil Court decree for inability to pay a debt of Rs. 40. The decree-holder, Mahesh Chandra Sinha, coming to know of His Honour's sentiments, waived his claim against the old man, who has been, therefore, released, and His Honour is very much pleased with Mahesh Chandra.

The writer observes that the release of the old man was due to his own good fortune, Sir Charles Elliott's kind feelings towards him having furnished only an occasion for his release. But it is probable that, except for the feeling of commiseration with the old man expressed by His Honour, Mahesh Chandra would not have thought of releasing his debtor. But Mahesh Chandra also deserves to be thanked, for it was quite within his power not to release the man even after the Lieutenant-Governor had expressed sympathy with him.

## (d)—Education.

9. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th January, says that it is probable that Mr. Grierson, the Collector of Gya, will officiate as Director of Public Instruction during the absence on leave of Sir Alfred Croft.

SAHACHAR,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

The writer remarks that the appointment of a Civilian to what is regarded as a prize post in the Uncovenanted Service will not tend to make that service popular or attractive.

10. Referring to Russian Nihilism, the *Behar Bandhu*, of the 14th January, says that the spread of education among the masses is weakening the sentiment of loyalty to the Sovereign. This is clear in Russia, and it is also perceptible in India.

BEHAR BANDHU,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

11. Referring to Justice Gurudas Banerji's re-appointment to the Vice-Chancellorship of the Calcutta University, the *Banganivasi*, of the 15th January, says that both his friends and enemies will admit that the doctor is fully qualified for the post. But it would have been a matter of greater pleasure if some other worthy native gentleman as, for instance, Sir Romesh Chandra, had been appointed to the post this time.

BANGANIVASI,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

12. The *Samay*, of the 15th January, is very glad to learn that the Hon'ble Dr. Gurudas Banerji has been re-appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University.

SAMAY,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

13. A correspondent of the *Sudhakar*, of the 15th January, says that the "Padya-Siksha" by Mozammul Huq, included in the list of text-books for vernacular schools issued by the Director of Public Instruction, was lately introduced in a school conducted by a Mahomedan head-pundit. The Sub-Inspector of Schools in that place took offence on seeing a Bengali book written by a Mahomedan in the hands of the boys, and at once ordered the head-pundit to reject it. The poor man had no alternative but to obey the order of the Sub-Inspector, in spite of the Director's circular given below:—

SUDHAKAR,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

"From the date of publication, middle schools of every class, whether maintained or aided by Government or by District Board, or competing for Government scholarship, are restricted to the use of the books included in this list. Managers of schools will be at liberty to choose out of the list any books that they may prefer for use in the various classes of their schools. \* \* The



selections of text-books from the authorised list, in every subject of every class, is henceforward left to the unrestricted choice of school managers."

PRAKRITI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

14. A correspondent of the *Prakriti*, of the 16th January, complains of the conduct of the head-master of the upper primary school at Golapgunge, in the district of Maldah. The correspondent says that the head-master does not regularly attend the school.

GRAMVASI,  
Jan. 19th, 1892.

15. The *Gramvasi*, of the 19th January, regrets to learn that a misunderstanding has sprung up between the teachers and pundits of the middle class English school at Paital, in the Howrah district, which is said to have culminated in the parties having recourse to personal violence.

The writer warns the students of the school against following the evil example of their teachers, and says that it would be best to dispense altogether with the services of such teachers.

(e)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

MURSHIDABAD  
PRATINIDHI,  
Jan. 8th, 1892.

16. The *Murshidabad Pratinidhi*, of the 8th January, says that the burning of dead bodies on an open ground on the bank of the Gauges at Berhampore is a source of nuisance to the local public. The Municipal authorities of the place are, therefore, requested to enclose the ground by three walls, leaving the river side of the ground open for the convenience of those who come to burn their dead.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,  
Jan. 12th, 1892.

17. Referring to a proposal now under the consideration of the Burdwan Municipal Corporation not to allow any thatched huts within its jurisdiction, the *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 12th January, says that a law to that effect, if strictly enforced, will lead to considerable individual hardship.

The writer, while fully sympathising with the benevolent object of the Corporation in making the law, condemns it on the following grounds:—

1st.—As the custom of living in thatched huts has, for a long time, been in force in the town of Burdwan, the people do not know how to build tiled huts, nor are materials for such huts easily procurable.

2nd.—The cost of roofing over many existing large houses which are thatched with tiles would be inconveniently heavy.

3rd.—Tiled huts are ill-fitted to afford their inmates protection against the inroads of monkeys, for which the town of Burdwan is notorious. Owing to the frequency of these inroads, the roofing of the huts will be easily liable to get damaged and in such a manner as to necessitate frequent repairs.

4th.—Owing to the difficulty of procuring materials for tiled huts in sufficient quantities, the cost of building them will be a heavy one for the poorer classes in the town.

The writer asks the Municipal Commissioners of Burdwan to take all these facts into consideration before finally deciding the question. In conclusion, the writer suggests that if the Municipality still adheres to its resolution not to permit thatched huts within its jurisdiction, it might, at any rate, restrict the operation of the rule to the commercial quarters of the town, where a fire would be likely to be attended with serious loss of life and property, or it might order that in future kerosine oil and other combustible articles should not be allowed to be kept in thatched godowns.

SAHACHAR,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

18. Referring to the recent Resolution of the Bengal Government on the working of District Boards, the *Sahachar*, of the 13th January, fully agrees with the Lieutenant-Governor that the success or failure of the system of Local Self-Government depends less on the constitution and legal status of the Boards than upon the practical capacity, good sense and experience of the individual members who serve upon them.



The writer firmly believes that if the Municipalities give satisfaction to the Government in the discharge of their duties, the Government will, of itself, be induced to improve their status and privileges.

The writer then goes on to point out certain defects in the practical working of the law which ought to be remedied without delay. The first of these is that between the election of new Commissioners and their confirmation by the Government all work in connection with the Municipalities is brought to a stand still. The writer also suggests that municipal elections should be held in summer instead of in the cold-weather as is the case at present. The public will be glad to learn that both these subjects are at present occupying the attention of the Government of Bengal.

19. A correspondent of the *Navayuga*, of the 14th January, writing from Hirapur in the Howrah district, says that the condition of the roads in that place is very bad. The Local and the District Board are very rigorous in the collection of cesses, but are not in the least anxious to improve the condition of the roads. The members of those Boards only attend to the improvement of the roads in their own villages. So much for Local Self-Government! The able Lieutenant-Governor is requested to look to these matters before he launches out in praise of Self-Government.

NAVAYUGA,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

20 Referring to the recent Resolution of the Bengal Government on the working of the Local and District Boards, the *Samay*, of the 15th January, cannot share in the regret expressed by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor that in some cases the Commissioners have shown lack of energy.

SAMAY,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

The writer says that whenever the Commissioners have tried to exercise their powers, the official Chairman has proved obstructive. The writer mentions the case of the Dacca Municipality as an instance in point.

Moreover, in even very small matters, the Boards have to refer to the Commissioners of Divisions for sanction, which in practice is attended with great inconvenience. The Commissioners cannot employ a chaprassi or a mohurir without the sanction of Government.

The writer cannot agree with the Lieutenant-Governor in expressing surprise at the prevalence of corrupt practices at the elections, seeing that such practices are not uncommon in England even at the present day. On the whole, the writer is inclined to think that as the system of Local Self-Government is yet in its infancy in this country, the people have not been able fully to realise its meaning and importance.

The writer, therefore, does not wonder that there should be abuses here and there, and says that if Municipalities can obtain the services of really able and competent officers as their Chairmen, their present defects and shortcomings will in a great measure be remedied.

21. The same paper has a long article on the subject of the working of the Local and District Boards in Bengal, in the course of which the writer makes the following observations and suggestions:—

SAMAY.

1. With reference to the statement showing the number and occupation of the members of the different Local and District Boards, it has been, in the writer's opinion, a mistake to place zemindars, talukdars and their subordinate officers in one class.

2. The Commissioner of the Presidency Division does not like that the legal profession should be so largely represented in the Boards, and says: "These men (that is, the pleaders and mukhtars who serve on the Boards) are seldom really interested in local affairs, and think more of the pleasure of administration and patronage than of the work which has to be done."

It is the writer's duty most emphatically to protest against this opinion of the Commissioner, and to state that, as far as the writer has been able to make enquiries on the subject, it is his belief that this class of Commissioners—the pleaders and mukhtars—perform their duties more satisfactorily than the other Commissioners.

3. With reference to the complaint against farmers and keepers of pounds in the mofussil, the Lieutenant-Governor has said that the subject is under the



consideration of the Government, and that a Bill dealing with the question will shortly be introduced in the Council.

The attention of the readers of this paper has often been drawn to the subject, and it is, therefore, a matter of satisfaction to the writer to receive this assurance from His Honour the Lieutenant Governor. Sir Charles Elliott will surely deserve the gratitude of the public if he will enact a law for the protection of the poorer classes in the country against oppression by the pound-keepers.

4. The Officiating Commissioner of the Presidency Division, Mr. Westmacott, says that the chief duty of the Local and District Boards should be to make suitable arrangements for the supply of pure drinking water to towns and villages in the mofussil.

The Lieutenant-Governor is inclined to think the matter to be one of exceptional difficulty, and says that the District Boards are unable to do much for village sanitation owing to deficiency of funds and to the unclean habits of the villagers themselves. If the District Boards are really hampered for want of funds, it is the duty of the Government to come forward and liberally assist them in carrying out the necessary measures for the supply of pure water to villages.

SANJIVANI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

22. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th January, says that Mr. Lee has really made himself hateful by his attempts to have his salary increased. At the municipal meeting of the 13th

The house-allowance question.

January the Commissioners were divided in the proportion of 18 to 16 on the proposal of giving Mr. Lee Rs. 250 as house-rent, as proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor. But the Lieutenant-Governor should consider whether house-rent ought to be allowed on a majority of only two votes. The whole body of the Calcutta rate-payers are opposed to the grant of any house allowance to Mr. Lee. And it is owing to the treachery of their representatives, the Commissioners, that Mr. Lee has been at all able to get votes in support of his proposal. In coming to a final decision on this point, the Lieutenant-Governor should therefore pay no heed to the votes of the Commissioners.

The next general municipal election will take place in March, when the rate-payers of Calcutta ought to be careful not to re-elect those Commissioners who either voted for Mr. Lee's increase of salary, or who, with a view not to displease any one, absented themselves from the meetings. Both were equally faithless to their constituents, and both should be eliminated from the new municipal body.

BANGAVASI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

23. The *Bangavasi*, of the 16th January, says that the people of Sinthi, within the jurisdiction of the Cossipore and Chitpore Municipality in the 24-Pergunnahs, have for years been suffering from malaria. The Municipal authorities, far from doing anything to relieve their

sufferings, have recently selected a site within the village for the deposit of night-soil. If the night-soil of the whole village is deposited there, the residents will certainly have to leave the place.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Jan. 17th, 1892.

24. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th January, says that the proceedings of the District Boards during the last few years prove the truth of the remark made by the Presidency Commissioner that no good work can be expected to be done by the

The District Boards.

present members of those Boards who work with an eye to their own authority and without any reference whatever to local needs. During the last six years no good work has been proposed or performed by the Dacca District Board, with the single exception of the proposal which emanated from Ray Madhav Chandra, and which the members are about to reject either from jealousy or from a disinclination to make enquiries. Some gentlemen tried to point out to the members the errors in the estimate of the cost of, and income from, the proposed tramway from Dacca to Goalundo, but they failed because the members of the Board had not sufficient time to attend to them. But is it right for a man to accept an office whose duties he has not time enough to discharge? But these men, as the Presidency Commissioner says, are blind to all such considerations from a hankering after power and patronage.

In his Resolution on the working of the District Boards, the Lieutenant-Governor has said that it is the duty of those Boards to clear the silted tanks, and that, if they now commence that work, it will soon be taken up by the



villagers and the zemindars, and the District Boards will thus be relieved of the expenditure on that head. This work was done in past times by the villagers and zemindars; but since the decrease of the authority of the zemindars, the impoverishment of the villagers and the disappearance of the old harmony between them, as a result of English rule and English education, there is little chance of that work being done by them. So, if Government now wants to improve the health of the villages, it must undertake the work itself, and either have it done by the District Boards or by Union Committees. The public derive no benefit in return for the Public Works cess which they at one time believed was levied for the excavation of tanks and such like things. Government pays only a small portion of the proceeds of that cess to the District Boards, and it is a matter of regret that those Boards do not spend even that small contribution upon public works. Greater control should be exercised over those Boards in this respect.

25. The *Gramvasi*, of the 19th January, has a long article headed "Is this Self-Government?" in the course of which the writer says that the Local Boards are under the control of the District Board, half of whose members are nominated by the Government, and at whose head stands the District Magistrate.

GRAMVASI,  
Jan. 19th, 1892.

The Burdwan Commissioner and  
the District Board of Howrah.

If the District Board makes any proposal for supplying local wants, it has to be referred to the Divisional Commissioner for sanction, and the Divisional Commissioner's decision in the matter is final. Thus the Local and District Boards exist merely to carry out the orders of the Divisional Commissioners, who undoubtedly in many cases are ignorant of the real condition of the people.

The writer then goes on to say that recently the District Board of Howrah made a proposal in their annual budget to spend Rs. 5,000 on the construction of roads in the villages. That good roads in the villages are a necessity goes without saying. But the Commissioner has thought fit to cut down this very small amount to Rs. 2,000, and has ordered more money to be spent on those roads the construction and repair of which is properly the work of the Public Works Department.

The writer thinks that the Commissioner is a new man who knows very little of the work of his office, who either does not see everything for himself, or who relies on the advice of his clerks and of the Inspector of Local Works. The writer thinks it likely that, in arriving at this decision, the Commissioner was influenced by the advice of the officers of the Public Works Department, who are naturally more interested in the construction and repair of the larger than of the smaller roads. But is this just? Is it not the duty of the Government to construct roads for the convenience of the poor villagers?

The writer also complains that the Commissioner has disallowed the proposal of the Board to spend Rs. 1,100 in printing and stationery, and has cut down the amount to Rs. 500 only. The writer says that it has not been proper for the Commissioner to summarily reject the proposal of the Boards, and asks him to reconsider his order on the subject.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

26. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 14th January, says that, according to the route proposed for the Howrah and Midnapore Railway, the line was to pass by Rajpore hat four miles to the north of Uluberia. But it is desirable that the line should pass nearer Uluberia, as the largest traffic will be from and to that place, and as it is besides the key to many other places. A line at the proposed distance will not be of any especial advantage to traders or to passengers, as there are facilities for communication with Uluberia by water. A line passing nearer Uluberia and alongside the Cuttack road will not involve greater cost than a line across fields, but it will certainly yield a larger income.

ULUBERIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 14 th, 1892.

The proposed Howrah and Mid-  
napore Railway.

27. The same paper says that many of the old wooden bridges over the khals in the Uluberia sub-division of the Howrah district have become rickety and stand in need of repair. The bridge at Kamalpur hat in the Shampur

ULUBERIA DARPAN.

Wooden bridges in the Uluberia  
sub-division of the Howrah dis-  
trict.



thana and that at Gujarpur in Ampta require to be promptly repaired. The District and Local Boards do not attend to this matter. The District Engineer is requested to inspect the two bridges mentioned above.

HITAVADI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

28. The *Hitavadi*, of the 16th January, complains that the very important road between Barrackpore and Baraset in the 24-Pergunnahs has been allowed to remain *kutch*. The writer says that the road ought to be made *pucka*, as its condition in the rainy season is such as to cause great inconvenience to passengers and carters. In the beginning of last year an influentially signed petition was presented to the Chairman of the District Board, 24-Pergunnahs, requesting aid towards the cost of making the Baraset road *pucka*. The writer is surprised to learn that the petition has been rejected.

The writer has received a minute on the subject from Babu Nabin Chander Baral, the Chairman of the Baraset Road Fund Committee, and hopes that with Nabin Babu as their Chairman the object of the Committee will be attained in no distant future.

(h)—General.

HINDI BANGAVASI,  
Jan. 11th, 1892.

29. Referring to the proposal of Government to transfer the work of registering births and deaths from the hands of Municipalities to those of the police, the *Hindi Bangavasi*, of the 11th January, says that the police are already entrusted with powers too large to allow the people to live in peace and safety, and if fresh powers are conferred upon them, as must necessarily be the case if the proposal is given effect to, their oppression of the people will certainly rise to its climax.

HITAKARI,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

30. The Tangail correspondent of the *Hitakari*, of the 13th January, says that the people of that place are put to great inconvenience by the Postal authorities in the matter of remitting money-orders by refusing to accept rupees coined during the reign of William IV or during the early years of Her Majesty's reign. The public of Tangail are not aware of any Government circular interdicting the use or acceptance of any but the Empress-marked coins.

NAVAYUGA,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

31. A correspondent of the *Navayuga*, of the 14th January, says that though the transfer of certain villages from the jurisdiction of the Digra post-office to that of the Somra post-office in the Hooghly district has been attended with a small saving to Government, it is causing great inconvenience to the public. While the work of the latter post-office has been increased, it has not been allowed an additional peon. The result is that letters are irregularly delivered.

PRATIKAR,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

32. The *Pratihar*, of the 15th January, says that the present Lieutenant-Governor is very fond of retrenchment. Of course, retrenchment of unnecessary expenses is desired by both the ruler and the ruled; but any retrenchment of just and necessary expenditure entails hardship on the subjects, and is therefore the last thing to be desired. The Lieutenant-Governor is anxious to prove his administrative ability by his retrenchment policy, but he cannot interfere with the European establishment of the Government, and has therefore directed his attention to the Subordinate Civil Courts. Small Cause Courts have already been abolished from many districts, and the Chuadanga and Meherpore sub-divisions are going to be abolished. It is also proposed to merge the Lalbagh sub-division of the Murshidabad district in the Sudder sub-division. This last proposal will cause great hardship to the people of Lalbagh, who should therefore lose no time in protesting against it.

SARASWAT PATRA,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

33. The *Saraswat Patra*, of the 16th January, says:—A petition has been made to the Government of India for the enrolment of natives as volunteers. There are arguments both for and against native volunteering. At present, one of the chief objections against such volunteering is Government's want of confidence in its native subjects. We cannot believe that this want of confidence is due to



the fear that arms in native hands will be used against Europeans. It proceeds rather from a doubt about their ability to do active military service. Many Anglo-Indians are of opinion that the Bengalis are not fit to be volunteers. It is no doubt a matter for the consideration of Government whether the formation of a native volunteer corps will be worth the cost. But it will wound native feeling if Government rejects the petition at once on the pretext that it will not be worth while to constitute a native volunteer corps. We do not request Government, at present, to enrol native volunteers in large numbers. Let it begin the experiment with one or two native volunteers. If they cannot stand the test no one will object to the practice being discontinued. But if they pass the test, successfully, there will be no harm in enlisting native volunteers in large numbers.

34. The *Bangavasi*, of the 16th January, says that it has not had time to go through the whole of the Bengal Administration Report for 1890-91, and will, therefore, refer only to the chapter dealing with newspapers.

The Press in the Bengal Administration Report for 1890-91.

The chapter contains the names of newspapers, but no comments upon them, and the names have been arranged as in the last Report. There is also a short reference to the circulation of certain Bengali newspapers. The name of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* was not mentioned in the last Report, nor is it mentioned in the present. In fact, the whole printed matter in this respect stands as in the last Report as if it was kept standing the whole year round for insertion in the present Report. Have not the authorities ever heard of papers like the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*?

BANGAVASI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

### III.—LEGISLATIVE.

35. Referring to the Pilgrims' Protection Bill, now before the Legislative Council of the North-Western Provinces, the *Samay*, of the 15th January, expresses full approval of the object of the Bill, which is to protect Hindu pilgrims against ill-treatment at the holy places.

The Pilgrims' Protection Bill.

The writer entirely agrees with Pundit Mahesh Chandra Nyayaratna, who has recently addressed a letter to the Lieutenant-Governor of the North-Western Provinces on the subject, that a clause should be inserted in the Bill for the protection of pilgrims against extortions of the Pandas. The writer has himself been urging upon the Government the necessity of legislation in the matter, and is glad to find that his representations have at length borne fruit.

The writer adds that any one who has visited a Hindu shrine knows that the Pandas are no better than robbers in gentlemanly guise.

36. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th January, says that the Consent Act has begun to bear poisonous fruit. A Mussulman woman of the Rupgunj thana in the Dacca district charged her son-in-law with having committed rape upon her daughter who, she stated, was less than 12 years old. Upon medical examination the girl was pronounced to be much older than 12, and the accused was discharged. Medical examination in this case has done no great harm, because the girl in question is a low class Mussulman; but such an examination would have been very lamentable in its consequences in a respectable family.

The working of the Consent Act.

SAMAY,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Jan. 19th, 1892.

### V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

37. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th January, has a long article headed "The apprehensions of famine in Bengal," in the course of which the writer says that the prospects of the winter crops in Bengal are unsatisfactory, and that in several districts the winter paddy crop is not expected to yield more than a six annas outturn. The attention of the Government should be drawn especially to the districts of Burdwan, Nuddea, Murshidabad, portions of Northern Bengal and Behar, three districts to the south of the Patna Division, where the outturn is reported to be less than eight annas. The writer apprehends distress in the districts of Nuddea, Dinagepore, Shahabad, Durbhunga, Bhagulpur, Monghyr

Apprehensions of famine in Bengal.

SAHACHAR,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.



Purnea and Mozufferpur, and says that if there be famine in those districts, the consequences thereof will be felt, more or less, all over the country. The writer believes that there will be famine this year in Bengal. Last year's outturn was not satisfactory. The crops in several districts were damaged owing to floods. The potato and paddy crops suffered greatly for want of water. In many places there was only a five-anna crop.

If in those places the *rabi* crop had yielded a better outturn, there would probably have not been much distress; but want of rain has materially affected the prospects of the *rabi* crops, as there has been almost a total absence of any rainfall since the Bengali month of *Aswin*. If there had been a few showers towards the end of the Bengali month of *Aswin* or the beginning of *Kartik*, the prospects of both the winter and *rabi* crops would have been greatly improved. The state and prospects of crops this year are on the whole considerably worse than those of last year. In conclusion, the writer asks the Collectors of districts to be up and doing, and adds that, if matters take a favourable turn, the distress in the districts mentioned above is likely to be such as may be dealt with locally.

BANGANIVASI,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

The out-look before the country  
and what Government ought to do.

38. The *Banganivasi*, of the 15th January, has the following on the outlook of the country:—

We cannot say what fate has in store for us this year. Reports of failure of the crops are reaching us from all quarters. Nor do the crop reports published in the Government Gazettes every week hold out any hopeful prospect. The Divisional Officers do not easily give publicity to distress within their jurisdictions, but this time their reports too contain matter enough to fill one with anxiety. Mr. Finucane, Director of Agriculture, says in his report that if there is a six-anna outturn throughout the country, then there is no fear of scarcity; but if the outturn is smaller than six annas, famine is likely to occur. Of course, a precise calculation of the total outturn of the whole country is not possible at this moment. But seeing how the prices of food articles are rising everywhere, there can scarcely be any doubt that, if not a regular famine, at least a severe pinch will be felt throughout the country.

It does not appear that Government has fully realised the magnitude of the distress that threatens the country. It is true Lord Lansdowne mentioned the fact of the failure of the crops at the recent St. Andrew's Dinner. But how can it be believed that Government has a full sense of the impending danger when no preparations are being made to meet it? Certain officials are of opinion that, even if there is a partial failure of crops this year, the country will be able to evade scarcity by this year's partial produce and the last year's reserve. But these officials forget that last year, too, there was not a very successful harvest, and then there was the usual export of food-grains to Europe. Again, this year, it is not in Bengal alone that the crops have failed, but there has been a bad harvest throughout India. The test this year will be a severe one for Lord Lansdowne. There are now only two or three months before the hill exodus. But it will not certainly be proper for His Excellency to go to Simla this year. He ought personally to see that the people do not suffer from scarcity; and it will not do for him to leave them entirely to God's mercy. Lord Northbrook stopped the hill exodus in the year that famine took place during his administration, and it behoves Lord Lansdowne to follow his predecessor's example. His Excellency should on no account go to Simla this year, for the voluptuous atmosphere of that place will prevent the reports of the people's distress from entering his ears. Sir Charles Elliott, too, should not remain indifferent in such a crisis. He has seen the condition of the whole country with his own eyes during the late tour, and it behoves him to take active measures to prevent a calamity like a famine befalling the province. His Honour is an energetic officer, and the people have full confidence in him. But the indifference of Government up to the present time is sufficient to cause anxiety. In certain quarters people are expressing dissatisfaction with Sir Charles Elliott for the amusements which took place at Belvedere on New Year's Day; and they are comparing His Honour with Sir Cecil Beadon. But the writer is confident that Sir Charles's actions will place him above such comparison.

Mr. Finucane, in his crop report, has distinctly said that precautionary measures ought to be adopted forthwith, or a famine, severer than the visitation of 1888, is sure to afflict the country. But the Divisional authorities do



not admit that the country is on the verge of such a calamity. Most of them are of opinion that there is no cause for apprehension. But these very officers will tell the people to resign themselves to God when calamity has actually made its appearance and when it will be beyond their power to cope with it. It is yet time, and Sir Charles Elliott ought to call for very accurate crop reports from every district and every sub-division in the province.

# VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

39. The *Sahachar*, of the 13th January, is glad that the title of Nawab has been conferred on Syed Amir Hossein as a personal distinction. The writer hopes that Moulvi Abdul Jubbar, who has not yet been honoured with a title, should be remembered on the occasion of the birthday honours.

SAHACHAR,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

40. The same paper has the following :—Not without reason are females in this country worshipped. Is it true that there can be no real love where there is neither courtship nor female liberty? Is there any incompatibility between conjugal love and the zenana system?

SAHACHAR.

A young man and a lady fall in love with each other at first sight. What draws them together is physical beauty, and personal charms. Each tries hard to conceal his or her defects and drawbacks, mental as well as physical. At dinner the lady bends her head down and pretends only to touch the food. The young man seems to think that there is but one woman in the world, and that he is ready to do anything in obedience to the slightest wish of hers. They are married. Immediately everything undergoes a change. The two have seen each other, often and often, in privacy, and have found out each other's qualities. Now instead of love there is aversion. The couple no longer address each other as "dearest." But in India the case is very different. The parents hand over the girl at an early age to the care of the husband. At first she is unwilling to go to the house of her husband, but in course of time she overcomes the aversion and learns to love her husband. She does not attend meetings, but seeks to make a happy home. In Europe and America husbands complain that wives do not care for home, do not care to rear up children, but leave all household duties to servants.

Where, then, is true domestic happiness? In India or in the land of Courtship?

41. Referring to the small number of native guests present at the last State dinner in Government House, the same paper cannot understand why only two Mussulman noblemen, Princes Jehan Kadr and Ferok Shah, should represent the Mussulman community on the occasion. The absence of orthodox Hindus among the guests is intelligible, but the Mussulmans could possibly have no objection to be present at the dinner.

SAHACHAR.

The writer then goes on to say that it is customary to invite only the higher officials to this dinner, and it would be well if the authorities were to be more prudent in future in issuing invitations.

Princes Jehan Kadir and Ferok Shah are not Government officials, and there are plenty of respectable men in both the Mussulman and Hindu communities who have visited Europe and are accustomed to dine with Europeans.

Nor can even orthodox Hindus have any objection to partake of fruits and sweets in Government House. The writer thinks that the Viceroy has been ill-advised. The official advisers of the Viceroy probably do not think it worth while to invite respectable native gentlemen to the dinner. Their attitude reminds him of the attitude of European planters in Natal towards Indian coolies.

But the times are happily now changed, and what is not tolerated in England is not also permitted in India.

42. The *Hitakari*, of the 13th January, says that last year it exposed the vicious character of the *m. lá* which is held in Thaliskundi, within the zemindari of Baboo Tarini Charan Sinha and Gopi Sundari Dasi in the Nuddea district, and entertained the expectation that the zemindars would put a stop to the extremely immoral exhibition which is made in the *m. lá* held under their

HITAKARI,  
Jan. 13th, 1892.



patronage. It is to be regretted, however, that the *mela* took place this year also, and there was the usual concourse of prostitutes in it.

HITAKARI  
Jan. 13th, 1892.

43. The same paper says that the *kayals* and *chapadars* in the *arats* in the Kushtea sub-division of the Nuddea district exact blackmail from the purchasers of goods from their *arats*. The purchasers, being generally poor men, find it a great hardship to have to give something out of the purchased articles to the *kayals* and *chapadars*. Educated *aratdars* like Baboos Beharilal Sen and Nibaran Chandra Banerji of Kushtea, ought, in consultation with other *aratdars* of the place, to put a check upon this corrupt practice of people who are in their own pay, and the Sub-divisional Officer and the Sub-Inspector of Police, Kushtea, ought also to direct their attention to the matter.

A corrupt practice in shops and *arats* in Kushtea in the Nuddea district.

ULUBERIA DARPAN,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

44. The *Uluberia Darpan*, of the 14th January, says that there is a large number of foul tanks in the Uluberia sub-division of the Howrah district, which are very injurious to the health of the surrounding people. It is requested that the Deputy Magistrate of Uluberia will, during his mofussil tour, pass orders upon the owners of these tanks to have them cleared. These tanks are most numerous in the Amta thana, and are absolutely in want of clearing.

Foul tanks in the Uluberia sub-division of the Howrah district.

BEHAR BANDHU,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

45. The *Behar Bandhu*, of the 14th January, says that a native was recently shot down by a European near Calcutta. Such cases have become very common. It is the duty of the Sovereign to protect the lives of his subjects. If the Sovereign neglects this duty, the subjects have no alternative but to allow themselves to be killed in this way.

Killing of Natives by Europeans.

NAVAYUGA,  
Jan. 14th, 1892.

46. The *Navayuga*, of the 14th January, refers to the rumour that the Lieutenant-Governor will go to inspect the management of the Burdwan Estate, and remarks that the management of that estate is becoming so unsatisfactory day after day, that it is necessary for His Honour to inspect it in person. There is disorder in Dansala, in the dispensary, in the college—in every department, in fact, of the estate. The writer has made various complaints about the management of the College, but the authorities have not probably thought it necessary to attend to the complaints of a native paper. The College has come to a pass in which it may be fitly entitled the Dutt Babu's College instead of the Raj College. It is said that some respectable persons of Burdwan have petitioned the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division for the improvement of the management of the College, but it is not known what order has been passed upon that petition. It is hoped that Sir Charles Elliott's keen eye will be directed to these irregularities. His Honour will probably be able to understand that the estate is not benefiting by the management of the present manager.

The Burdwan Estate.

SUDHAKAR,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

47. The *Sudhakar*, of the 15th January, is sorry to learn from the *Sahayogi*, that Rahatennesa Khanum Chowhurani, zemindar of Deldwar, in the Tangail sub-division of the Mymensingh district, is not on good terms with her son. It is said she was confined by the latter, and had to call in the aid of the District Magistrate and the District Superintendent of Police to get released. She has removed to a house in the town, without being permitted by her son to take away the least bit of chattel or property from her home. This rupture between mother and son is a very unhappy incident indeed, and the other zemindars of Tangail should do their best to settle the difference.

Quarrel between a female zemindar in Mymensingh and her son.

SUDHAKAR.

48. The same paper has the following:—

The Indian population consists chiefly of Hindus and Mussulmans. If the country is to make any improvement of its condition, that improvement must be therefore effected by the joint efforts of the two people. No improvement will be effected without friendly feelings between them. No real national progress will be possible in India unless the Hindus and Mussulmans walk hand in hand on the road to improvement. As it is, the Hindus have left the Mussulmans far behind them, so much so, indeed, that the Mussulmans can scarcely expect to overtake or come near their Hindu brethren, unless helped to do so by the latter themselves. The Hindus, too, should know that whatever progress they may make will fail to

Indian progress and the Congress.



secure the permanent welfare of the country, if equal progress is not made by their Mussulman countrymen. Take, for instance, the question of the political rights for which the Congress is fighting. If Government had seen that the whole Indian people, united as one man, was demanding those rights, it is very probable that it would only have been too glad to confer those rights. Government wants to see the whole Indian population bound in an indissoluble tie of fraternity, and it will not then grudge the Indians their legitimate dues. But so long as it does not see that, it will not grant the Hindus any political right whatever. The Mussulmans, seeing that the Hindus will not help them on the path of progress, and that any success achieved by the Congress will mean so much mortification to themselves, are doing their best to oppose the Congress. The Congress is mainly a Bengali and a Hindu institution; it can hardly be called an Indian National Institution. Wise and far-sighted Mahomedans, like Sir Syed Ahmed of Aligarh, have, for this reason, studiously kept aloof from the movement. It is true the Congress has a few Mahomedan members, but there is hardly a notable Mahomedan in it.

49. Referring to the recent garden parties at Belvedere, to which native students were invited, the *Samay*, of the 15th January, says that such gatherings are calculated to promote good feeling between the rulers and the ruled in this country.

SAMAY,  
Jan. 15th, 1892.

50. The following is an extract from an article on the Congress appearing in the *Bangavasi* of the 16th January:—

BANGAVASI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

The work the Congress is doing.

It ought to be considered whether the money spent on the Congress up to the present time has been the instrument of any real good to the country. In one view of the matter of course the money has not been thrown away, as no money spent in any way is ever wholly thrown away. The libertine spends his money on prostitutes, and the beau on pleasure parties. But a part, at least, of the money spent by them goes to the artisan, the cultivator, or the labourer. But the question is, whether, besides this general sort of good, the Congress money has done any specific good to the country. The writer can see none. Besides fruitless waste of energy, the Congress has done nothing. The talk about unity amongst the various nationalities of India as a result of the Congress meetings is of no more worth than a madman's raving. That the Congress has effected no such unity is certain. It has, on the contrary, given rise to new divisions in the country. Orthodox Hindus and Mahomedans, for instance, look upon the Congressists as their enemies. And among the Congressists themselves serious differences of opinion are seen to exist. If the Congress had been anything besides a mere arena for speech-making, without anything sound or solid in it, if it had been a really working agency, then the differences which have already sprung up among the Congressists would have led to very serious consequences. But the Congress, as everybody knows, is only a merry-making affair for the Babus, and they, therefore, care little for the consequences of such differences.

Far from doing any good to the country, the Congress has done it real injury. It has dissipated the energy of the country, and has thus rendered it ineffectual for all practical purposes. If the able Hindus of Bengal had thought for their own province only, and the able men of the other Indian provinces had also thought each for his own part of the country, the country might well have expected to derive some good, in the course of time, from their thought and exertion. The people of each province ought to think for themselves alone, making common cause with the people of the other provinces only when some question affecting the whole country should arise. But the Congressists are annihilating every possibility of such a thing ever taking place.

51. The *Sanjivani*, of the 16th January, appears in black border and expresses condolence with the Royal family at the premature death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale.

SANJIVANI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

52. Referring to the Viceroy's intended visit to Cooch Behar, the same paper says that the visit means an expenditure of a lakh of rupees from the Cooch Behar treasury. Let the Viceroy himself say if such an expenditure is warranted by the condition of the Cooch Behar State. It is a small State with an

SANJIVANI.



annual revenue of not more than eight or nine lakhs of rupees. Only the other day it borrowed money from the Government of India for the construction of a railway line, and the education and health of the Cooch Behar people are not duly looked after for want of funds. Is it proper, under these circumstances, to make the State incur an expenditure of a lakh of rupees in order to give a treat to the Viceroy? The subjects of a State have the first claim to its revenue, and it is only in absolute Government, that the ruler does with his revenue what he pleases. If the Viceroy has felt a desire to spend a few days in hunting, he may gratify his wish at his own expense. And even then the question would arise whether His Excellency should be considered entitled to receive any salary for the time he might spend in hunting. However, the people of India will not object to His Excellency's spending a few days in hunting after a period spent in hard work.

PRAKRITI,  
Jan. 16th, 1892.

53. A correspondent of the *Prakriti*, of the 16th January, says that cholera is still raging furiously in the village of Sindrani, in the district of Jessore, and that two or three deaths are reported daily. As a proof of the

virulence of the outbreak, the correspondent mentions the fact that, out of a population of four to five hundred persons in the neighbouring villages of Pundighata and Jhiktipota, not less than one hundred have already died. The district of Jessore seems to be a hot-bed of cholera, and the epidemic every year assumes in the district such a virulent type that unless the Government adopt urgent remedial measures, the smaller villages in the district will, in course of time, be depopulated. The poor villagers are utterly powerless to cope with the calamity which has befallen them. In conclusion, the correspondent appeals to the generous public and to the Government to help the sufferers with money to enable them to obtain medical assistance.

PRAKRITI.

54. A correspondent of the same paper says that cholera is raging fiercely in the village of Udaigunj, Jaldahi, in the district of Maldah, and that six or seven deaths are reported daily.

The correspondent complains of the absence of medical practitioners in the village or its neighbourhood, and asks the Government to help the sufferers with money to enable them to obtain medical aid.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR  
CHANDRIKA,  
Jan. 17th, 1892.

55. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 17th January, gives a picture of the late Prince Albert Victor and an account of his Indian visit, and says:—

The Prince is no more. The first grandson of Her Majesty has met with a premature death. Prince Albert Victor, eldest son of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, has left this transitory world. The heart bursts and the brain is confounded at this sad news. It is, like Ram, going away as an exile on the eve of his coronation, nay, it is worse than that. For Prince Albert Victor is not exiled but annihilated. Her Majesty has thus received one shock the more in her life. Her heart had scarcely recovered from the blows inflicted upon it by the death of her god-like husband, of her sage-like son Leopold, and of that daughter of hers, and what is this again and at this time of her life! It is the thunder-bolt striking down the scorched body, the body wounded by the tiger, bitten by the serpent! The heart writhing in grief for the death of a husband, a son and a daughter, has a fresh wound inflicted on it by the death of a grandson. The shock will, indeed, be too much to bear for Her Majesty. And as regards the Prince of Wales, oh, the blow will shatter his heart to pieces! It was no ordinary son of his; it was his first-born, the pupil of his eye, the jewel of his heart, one who was to have been the heir of his illustrious father. It is of the death of such a son of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales that we hear. Yet, your Royal Highness, yours is a man's heart, which will bear the most unbearable pain. But how will your wife bear the shock? The shock will, perhaps, be too heavy for her woman's heart, especially when she is so fond of her children. Her's is also not a very strong constitution, and the blow may shatter her health. We are particularly anxious on her account.

The Prince was dear to us as the grandson of Her Majesty, and dearer to us as the son of the Prince of Wales. But he was our dearest on account of his Indian visit. His cheerful face is still reflected in our hearts. The tide of love and loyalty and joy which swelled high in this country when the



Prince visited it had not fully ebbed, and we were expecting to join in the rejoicing of the royal wedding, when it fell to our lot to weep for his death! At the exact moment when the people of India were expecting to be transported with joy at the Prince's nuptials, they have been plunged into a deep sea of sorrow. This, indeed, is too much for them to bear!

O Prince! O dear Albert Victor! Your picture was once given in this paper during your Indian visit, and we were joyfully looking forward to the day of your marriage, when it was to have been again held before the eyes of the Indian public. But, alas! the picture has to be again given to-day, not in joy, but in sorrow! Nuptial ceremonies have to be changed into funeral rites, and preparations for a honeymoon have to give way to preparations for a burial.

The *Dainik* will not be issued to-morrow, (18th January), out of respect for the Prince's memory.

56. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 17th January, has the following on the death of Prince Albert Victor:—

Death of Prince Albert Victor,  
and the Eurasian community of  
Dacca.

A dire calamity! Prince Albert Victor, the eldest grandson of the Empress of India and the future heir to the thrones of England and India, has died of influenza. We have to announce to day the news of the death of the young Prince, who gladdened thousands of spectators in Calcutta last year, and the news of whose approaching wedding has been a subject of common talk during the last few weeks. We are overwhelmed with sorrow.

On the evening of Friday, the 15th January, the Eurasian community of Dacca held festivities at the very telegraph office which had received that terrible news that very morning. Such a spectacle on a day of such mourning has deeply grieved us. Is it this Christian community that is so much favoured by the Queen?

57. The *Som Prakash*, of the 18th January, appears in black and says:—

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

We are under the painful necessity of conveying to our readers the mournful tidings of the death of Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence, the eldest son of the Prince of Wales, who would have been the future Emperor of India. There is no pen that can describe the sorrow we feel at the news of the Prince's death. What a dreadful calamity! What heart-rending sorrow! He, who was in India amongst his future subjects only two years ago, on whose arrival the whole of India was a scene of festivity, is no more! Oh! what a sad vicissitude of fortune! No one ever dreamt that death would lay his cruel hands so prematurely upon our Prince. The sad intelligence of his death came to us at a moment when we were rejoicing at the news of his approaching marriage with Princess May. We do not know why this terrible calamity has overtaken our Queen-Empress—why she has to suffer so much mental agony for the untimely loss of her dear grandson. What an evil moment that was when influenza made its appearance in England!

58. The same paper is glad that His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor is very fond of mixing with college students. His

School-boy parties in Belvedere.

Honour invited the students of several colleges on Friday, the 8th January, and His Honour and Lady Elliott pleased the students with kind words. This is, no doubt, great good fortune.

59. With reference to the recent notification of the Government of India directing all English officials to put themselves into mourning, and requesting that a similar mark of

Death of Prince Albert Victor.

respect may be observed by all other classes of British subjects in India, the *Gramvasi*, of the 19th January, says that it is the duty of every loyal subject of Her Majesty to carry out the order as a mark of sympathy with the Royal Family in their present bereavement. The writer remarks that the Hindus believe the relation between a king and his subjects to be precisely similar to that which exists between a father and his children. In conclusion, the writer suggests that Hindus of all classes should wear *gairik* garments (dyed yellow) as a mark of their sorrow on this melancholy occasion.

60. With reference to the recent garden parties at Belvedere, to which native students were invited, the same paper is glad to find the Lieutenant-Governor always evincing a warm interest in the moral and intellectual welfare of the students.

The Garden parties at Belvedere.

DACCA PRAKASH,  
Jan. 17th, 1892.

SOM PRAKASH,  
Jan. 18th, 1892.

SOM PRAKASH.

GRAMVASI,  
Jan. 19th, 1892.

GRAMVASI.



The students of the different colleges in Calcutta were present at the garden party held on Wednesday, the 14th January last. His Honour conversed with the Professors of the Calcutta Colleges and with Babu Pratap Chandra Mozumdar regarding the work of the Society for the higher training of young men. Addressing the students present, His Honour said that they would always find in the present Lieutenant-Governor one of their sincerest friends. Sir Charles and Lady Elliott were full of attention to the guests. Refreshments in both European and Native style were provided for the students, who also took part in various manly games.

GRAMVABI.  
Jan. 19th, 1892.

61. The same paper has an article headed "Sorrow on Sorrow," in the course of which the writer thus refers to the death of Prince Albert Victor:—

The death of Prince Albert Victor.

The news of the death of the Prince has cast a gloom over the entire civilized world. The event bears, in fact, a more melancholy aspect than even the exile of Rama on the eve of his coronation.

Arrangements for the marriage of the Prince were in progress, when he was suddenly prostrated with an attack of influenza.

At first the medical attendants did not apprehend any danger, and the Prince seemed to be fairly on a way to recovery. But the disease suddenly took a serious turn, and within a few hours His Royal Highness was no more. Death makes no distinction between young and old, between Prince and peasant. Death is a great leveller. Ah! how uncertain is life and how mighty is death!

Verily, a great calamity has befallen this land. The hearts of our sorrow-stricken countrymen are about to burst under this double load of grief. It was only the other day that the country was shocked to learn that Pundit Ajodhya Nath was no more, and before it had had time to recover from the blow, the melancholy intelligence was received of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Albert Victor.

A wise Providence has ordered that the relation between Her Majesty and the Indian people should be one of great intimacy, and it is on this account that the news of the untimely death of the Prince has made us so sorry. The visit of His Royal Highness to India endeared him all the more to the nation. The recollection of that visit is yet fresh in our minds. What makes our sorrow almost unbearable is the circumstance that the Prince was struck down on the eve of his marriage. The Prince was proficient in the military art, and had also received a liberal education. His Royal Highness had only completed his twenty-eighth year.

May his soul rest in peace.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

*Bengali Translator.*

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,  
The 23rd January 1892.